

Message Text

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20

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AGR-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OMB-01

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R 112238Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1430

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3897

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, UR, CS

SUBJECT: FIGUERES' TRIP TO U.S.S.R.

1. EX COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT JOSE FIGUERES FERRER (1954-58 AND 1970-74) IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART SAN JOSE ON SEPTEMBER 11 FOR MOFCOW VIA MEXICO CITY ON OFFICIAL INVITATION TO VISIT U.S.S.R. HE WILL REPORTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY EX-MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FERNANDO BATALLA, AND HIS SON, BUSINESSMAN JOSE MARTI FIGUERES.

) F RGUERES ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO BE IN U.S.S.R. ABOUT 2-3 WEEKS. FIGUERES HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE REQUESTED AND RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM HIS HOST THAT HE WILL BE PERMITTED TO VISIT SOVIET UNIVERSITIES AND TO MEET FREELY WITH BOTH STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

3. FOR EMBASSY MOSCOW: FIGUERES, AT 69, IS THE GRAND OLD MAN OF COSTA RICAN POLITICS; HE IS KNOWN AS A WILY, AND OUTSPOKEN, AND COLORFUL POLITICIAN AND LEADER WHO IS STILL A POLITICAL POWER IN COSTA RICA.

FIGUERES IS OF THE OLD SCHOOL OF DEMOCRATIC LEFT IN

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LATIN AMERICA, AND, ALTHOUGH INDEPENDENT MINDED, IS FRIENDLY

TO US. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN STAUNCHLY OPPOSED TO TOTALITARIAN
GOVERNMENTS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. AT PRESENT HE IS A
FARMER AND A BUSINESSMAN. THIS IS FIGUERES' FIRST TRIP
TO THE U.S.S.R.; THE INVITATION WAS ORIGINALLY EXTENDED
WHILE FIGUERES WAS PRESIDENT. ANY COMMENTS YOU CAN PROVIDE ON
FIGUERES' ACTIVITIES DURING VISIT WILL BE APPRECIATED.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO03897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750315-1025
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750962/aaaaccje.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIGUERES' TRIP TO U.S.S.R.
TAGS: OVIP, UR, CS, (FIGUERES FERRER, JOSE)
To: STATE MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006